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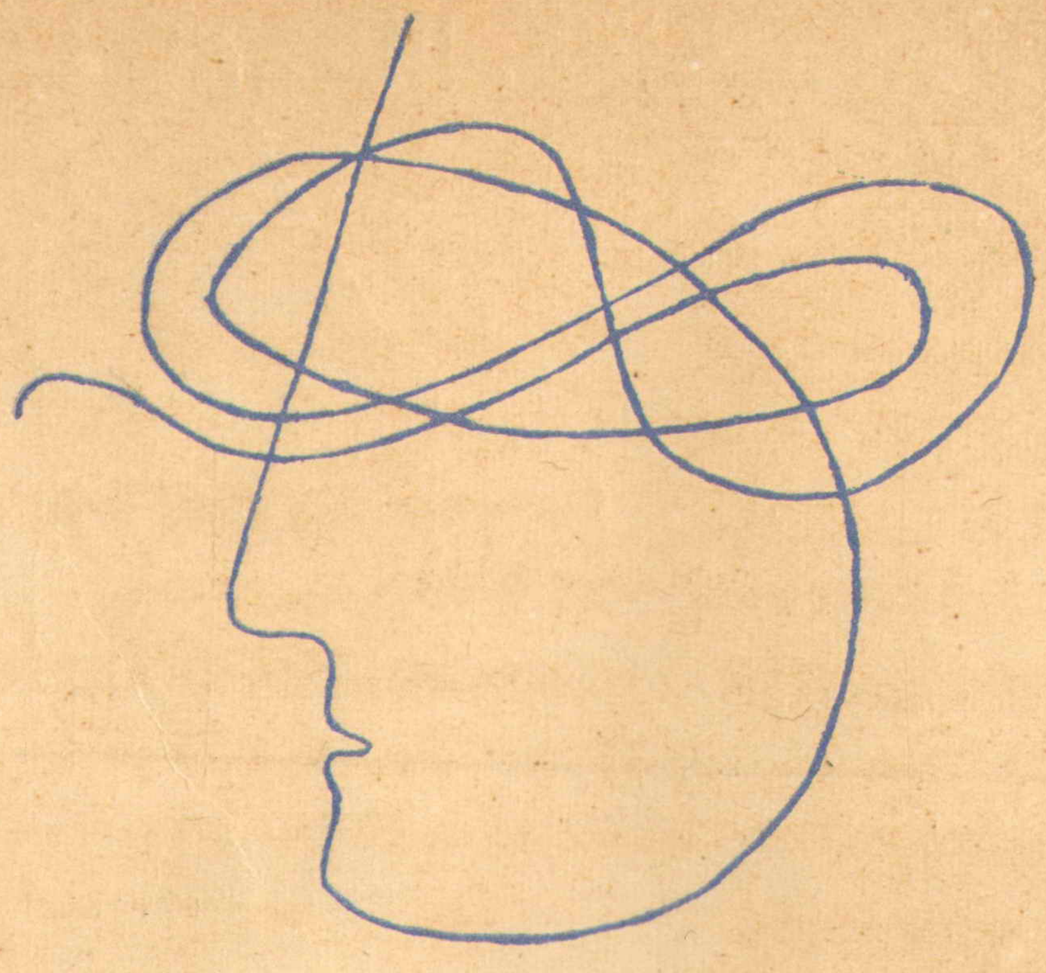
EDITOR
Naseem Saifi

HAZRAT KHALIFATUL MASIH III

حضرت خلیفۃ المسیح الثالث ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ بنصرہ العزیز



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AHEAD, SO WE CARE A LITTLE MORE SIR!

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THE

Tahrik-i-Jadid

MONTHLY

JOURNAL OF THE

TAHRIK-I-JADID ANJUMAN AHMADIYYA (PAKISTAN)

Vol. 3 | FEBRUARY 1967, SHAWAL 1386 | No. 2

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Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III

Below we reproduce the contents of a letter written to a Christian Padre who had an interview with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III with a view to writing some articles in the European Press. The notes on the life and work of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III were sent to him later, on his request ; these notes were prepared as a result of an interview with Hazrat Sahib who very graciously gave all these details of his life and work.

(Editor)

As for games, the 1st game in which he was ever interested was shooting. His father bought him a daisy gun, which made him very much interested in shooting. His leisure hours were always (in the childhood) occupied with this gun and it saved him from any other activity which could prove useless and give no physical exercise. In his school days he played football, cricket and hockey ; he was a member of the 1st eleven. When he joined the Govt. College, Lahore he continued to play football and was soon selected as a member of the 1st eleven there too. There he took part in University matches. While at the Oxford he played hockey and lawn tennis and also took interest in Squash. He has always been a very good swimmer, in his younger days he could do a mile and a half quite comfortably.

Photography has always been a hobby with him and he takes mostly coloured pictures. Some of his coloureds are remarkably good. In his present position, he is so occupied with the work of the Community, that all the games and the hobbies had to be set aside though only for the time being. Of course once or twice he has been out for a hunting excursion since he took over the present office and he hopes to start lawn tennis next winter.

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As far as the daily routine of his work is concerned it might not be easily understandable, for, his day starts a little before the dawn and he offers a prayer (supererogatory) and then the 1st of the five daily prayers which is called "FAJR". During winter, this prayer is followed by breakfast—no bed tea. Then comes bathing. This point may be of interest to note, that during winter, he takes bath before tea, while in summer it comes after tea. That brings him to the point from where he starts his daily official duties. His duties are varied and many in number. He meets the heads of various Departments, members of the Community who would like to see him and some of the non-members too ; his mail which may be 300 to 700 articles comes from the offices within Pakistan and various parts of the world. He reads all these letters and sends them back to his office (Private Secretary) with necessary notes for action. Some of the important letters are replied by himself and he does so by dictating the replies. Every one would be surprised to note that this continues from the breakfast to 11 p.m. and may go even upto 1 a.m.

Of course it includes the reading of newspapers and magazines and books on various subjects, daily reading of Holy Quran and pondering over its meanings. He also goes through the manuscripts of the new books and magazines to be published by the Community. These things come to him for correction and approval.

As you know there are five prayers to be offered everyday and therefore he goes to the mosque five times a day to lead the prayers. As for the time that he devotes for his family, it can be said that now-a-days it is only the mealtimes that are spent together; it is all due to the pressure of work. When he is with his family i.e. at the meal times, he is very lively and appreciates and enjoys humour. He is full of praises for the kind and gracious God for all that He has given out of His grace.

Before becoming the Khalifa he had toured the whole of West Pakistan in his capacity as the President of Ansar Ullah (that section of the Community which is above forty—only male members—is called Ansar Ullah), but since he took over as Khalifa he has not toured any more. One of the reasons is that traditionally it is the followers who come to pay visit to the Khalifa instead of his going to them. And of course that does not mean that he will not tour at all; only now-a-days the pressure of work does not permit him to do so.

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He is very fond of visiting places and since occasionally he takes pleasure in driving himself, every new and good road has seen him at the steering.

For him life and work are synonym and as the Holy Prophet, peace be on him, has said, God grants cheerfulness to the believers, he has passed through the hardest tribulations with great pleasure (as for example the time of the partition of Indo-Pak Sub-Continent and 1953 riots against the Ahmadiyya Community).

He has one wife, three sons and two daughters. One son and one daughter are married and have a child each. The eldest son—Anas Ahmad—has dedicated his life and is teaching at the T.I.College, Rabwah. His (Anas's) younger brothers are still at their studies and it is hoped that they also will dedicate their lives for the service of Islam. His family life is happy and contented one.

His life is simple and so is his diet. Soya beans is a part of his daily diet.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Do you want to know something about the

AHMADIYYA MOVEMENT ?

Are you interested in any Islamic book that you think can be obtained only from RABWAH, the Headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Movement ?
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Managing Editor

Introduction of Islam to America

A. R. Khan Bengalee

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The Message of Islam was first conveyed to the peole of America through a pamphlet, in 1885, by the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, himself (peace and blessings of God be on him), who claimed to be the Promised Messiah of the Latter Days, promised in the Scriptures of all the great religions. He wrote a pamphlet in Urdu, got it translated into English and mailed it to thousands of lay as well as clergy men of Europe and America. As a result of the circulation of this pamphlet in America, considerable interest in Islam was created in a section of the American people. A journalist, who later became American Consul in the Philipines, became deeply interested in Islam, and started correspondence with Hazrat Ahmad. Mr. Webb wrote his first letter to Hazrat Ahmad in 1887. His correspondence with Hazrat Ahmad is recorded in one of the latter's book, "Shana-i-Haq." Mr. Webb was so highly impressed by the truth of Islam that he resigned his office of Consulship and started preaching Islam in America. He supplied the Editor of "The Review of Religions" (the English Magazine of the Ahmadiyya Movement, published from Qadian, at that time) with one thousand addresses of distinguished Americans. This indicates how highly he appreciated the Magazine of the Movement. He also revised the English translation of Hazrat Ahmad, the Promised Messiah's book, "Islami Asool ki Philsophi" (The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam). It is not known whether he formally joined the Ahmadiyya Movement, but there is no doubt that he accepted Islam.

In 1904, one American, Mr. Anderson, formally joined the Ahmadiyya Movement. He was given an Islamic name, "Ahmad", by the Promised Messiah, peace and blessings of God be on him.

On August 23, 1903, the Promised Messiah challenged Dr. Alexander Dowie to a prayer duel. Dr. Dowie claimed to be Elijah II and a prophet. He abused and slandered the Founder of Islam, Hazrat Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, in the foulest language possible, and claimed to have been Divinely commissioned to exterminate Islam, whereas Hazrat Ahmad claimed that he had been sent by God to defend and establish Islam and to bring all humanity within its fold. So, in order to have the truth of their respective claims decided by God Himself, Hazrat Ahmad challenged Dr. Dowie to a Prayer Duel, asking him to pray that whoever of them had made a false claim might perish in the life-time of the true one. This challenge was sent to him twice, once in1902 and again in 1903, and it was published in many famous American Newspapers, thirty two of which are mentioned in the Promised Messiah's Book, "Haqiqatul-Wahi," some of which are mentioned below :

1. The Chicago Interpreter, June 28, 1903
2. The Telegraph, July 5, 1902.
3. The Argonaut, Sanfrancisco, December 1, 1902.
4. The Literary Digest, New York June 20, 1903
5. The New York Mail and Express, June 28, 1903.

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*The article is, in fact, a translation, with certain additions and adaptations, of the speech of Hazrat Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Vakiluttabshir, Tahrik-i-Jadid. delivered at the Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement, held at Rabwah, Pakistan in 1964.

6. The Herald, Rochester, June 25, 1903.
7. The Record, Boston, June 25, 1903.
8. The Advertiser, Boston, June 25, 1903.
9. The Path Finder, Washington. June 27, 1903.
10. The Introvision, Chicago, June 27. 1903.
11. The Democrat Chronicle. Rochester June 25, 1903.
12. The Baltimore American, June 25, 1903.

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The Editors of the Papers, inspite of being Christians and opposed to Islam, published in their respective Papers, the challenge to the Prayer Duel in detail, giving much importance to it. Several papers published the picture of the Promised Messiah, peace and blessings of Allah be on him; some published the pictures of the Promised Messiah and Dr. Dowie, too; and some remarked that the proposal was certainly reasonable and just.

The substance of the challenge to Prayer Duel was that Islam was true and the Christian doctrines of Atonement and Trinity were false, and Hazrat Ahmad was sent by God and he was the same Messiah who was to come in the Latter Days, and whose advent was promised in the scriptures of all the religions; that Dr. Dowie was false in his claims of being a Messenger of God and in upholding the doctrine of Trinity; and that if he entered into the Prayer Duel, he would die a miserable death of grief and sorrow, and if he did not enter into the prayer duel, in that case too, he would not escape DIVINE PUNISHMENT, and a great calamity would befall him and his Zion City.

Dowie, at first, paid no attention to the challenge, but afterwards being importuned by the people and the Press, made the following statement in his own paper of September 1903 and other dates :

> "People sometimes say to me, 'why do you not reply to this that and other things?" Reply! Do you think that I should reply to gnats and flies? If I put my foot on them, I would crush out their lives. I give them a chance to fly away and live." He also called Hazrat Ahmad "foolish Mahometan Messiah." On December 12, 1903 he wrote: "If I am not God's Prophet, there is none on God's earth that is." In the following January he wrote: "My part is to bring out the people from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, and settle them in this and other Zion cities until the time shall come when the Mahometans are swept away... ....May God grant us that time."

Now. at the time of the publication of the challenge to Prayer Duel, Hazrat Ahmad was about 70 years old, while Dr. Dowie was about 55, and, therefore, compared with Hazrat Ahmad, Dr. Dowie was a young man. But Hazrat Ahmad said: "Since the matter is not to be settled by age, I do not care for this disparity in years. The whole matter rests in the hand of Him Who is the Lord of Heaven and earth and Judge of Judges, ond He will decide it in favour of the true claimant."

After the challenge Hazrat Ahmad, the Promised Messiah, peace and blessings of God be on him, was repeatedly informed by God that he would be victorious and his opponent would be destroyed. The last prophecy referring to his victory over Dr. Dowie, was received and published only about fifteen days before the death of Dowie.

Now in fulfillment of the Promised Messiah's Prophecy, Dowie died in, March, 1907, in the life-time of the

Promised Messiah, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. "Dowie died with his friends fallen away from him and his fortune dwindled He suffered from paralysis and insanity. He died a miserable death with Zion City torn and flayed by internal dissensions", writes the Sunday Herald, Boston, June 23, 1907.

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Thus was fulfilled the prophecy that foretold the miserable end of one who was a man of great fortune, lived like a prince, had a following, according to his own claim one hundred thousand strong, was held in great esteem and honour. Every phase of his life was visited with calamity. He was proved to have misappropriated public money, drunk profusely although he himself had declared wine to be forbidden in his teachings; was expelled by his own followers from the city of Zion which he built at the cost of millions of dollars, his wife and his son became his enemies; his father declared him to be illegitimate; his claim of miraculous cure proved a mere vaunt, a down-right falsehood, for he himself suffered long from paralysis and could not cure himself. and was carried like a log by some people from p l a c e to place; the same leg with which he boasted of c r u s h i n g the "Mehometan Messiah" r e f u s e d to support his body; extreme torment and sorrow turned him mad, and, at last, he died an extremely miserable death in the first week of March, 1907. Thus Allah showed in America a great and Mighty Sign to prove the truth of Islam and its Champion, The Promised Messiah, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

FIRST ISLAMIC MISSION IN AMERICA

The news of Dr. Dewi's death was published in many American newspapers, and this created a favourable atmosphere for the propagation of Islam in America. But the establishment of a regular Islamic Mission in America waited for the time of the Promised Messiah's Second S u c c e s s o r, the "Muslih-Mauood," (Promised Reformer). It seems that the Divine Will was that the credit for the establishment of the regular Mission in America should go to Muslih-Mauood. So, it was under the Blessed Auspices of the Muslih-Mauood. Hazrat M i r z a Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad that the first regular Mission in America was established in January 1920 by Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq, an illustrious companion of the Promised Messiah, Peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq first worked for some time in New York, and then went to Chicago, and established a Mission House and Mosque there. From there he issued a quarterly magazine, "The Muslim Sunrise" in 1922. He enjoyed such a reverence and reputation that two Universitites of America conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctorate. Through him thousands of Americans accepted Islam, a fact testified to by the famous Christian magazine "The Muslim World". Hazrat Mufti Mohammad Sadiq was succeeded by Promised Messiah's another Companion Hazrat Maulvi Mohammad Din He carried on the work of his predecessor successfully for two years. He was succeeded by Hazrat Sufi Mutiur Rahman Bengalee who worked in America as a successful Muslim Missionary for twenty years from 1927. He continued the publication of the magazine "The Muslim Sunrise, and also wrote two valuable books, "Life of Muhammad," and "The Tomb of Jesus." After him, a team of Missionaries, c o m p r i s i n g sometimes four, sometimes five, with one as Missionary-in-Charge, has heeen carrying on the propagation of Islam in America regularly. At present, there are organized Ahmadiyya Muslim communities in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston Pitsburgh, Youngstown, Cleveland, Day-

ton, Athens, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Detroit, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Chicago and St. Louis.

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SINCERITY OF THE MEMBERS

The sincerity of the members can be judged from the fact that they offer five daily prayers, observe Fasting in the month of Ramadhan, make sacrifices of animals on the Day of Idul-Azhiya, and contribute generously for the propagation of Islam As a result of their generous contributions, the American Mission has now become a self-supporting Mission. Alhamdulillah. The members abstain scrupulously from drinking, gambling eating pork, dancing and other un-Islamic customs of the country. They are striving hard to know and live Islam. Many of them have learned to read the Arabic text of the Holy Quran. Some of them have committed to memory several verses of the Holy Quran and also Sayings of the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. Several of them have bought the five volumes of the Commentary of the Holy Quran by Hazrat Muslih-Mauood, and read them and other books on Islam lovingly.

FIRST REGULAR MOSQUE IN DAYTON

One member of the Dayton Mission, the late Brother Wali Karim, dedicated his entire house and its premises to the Mission, where, by the grace of Allah, a regular Mosque has been built recently. The foundation of the Mosque was laid in March, 1953 and the basement consisting of a big meeting hall, a kitchen, and bath was built in the mid fifties, but the completion of the mosque awaited the arrival of our Missionary, Major Abdul Hamid, who immediately after his arrival there devoted himself to the completion of the Mosque. Through his inspiration, the late Brother Wali Karim in whose premises the Mosque is built, donated one thousand dollars, another brother. Abdul Qadir, a friend of his, who lives in his very house, donated six thousand dollars. The Lajna Imaullah (Women's Association of the Community donated one thousand dollars. Then othe members of Dayton and other Missions come forward with liberal donations. Thus the first regular Mosque of the Ahmadiyya Community in America was built in August, 1965

FAZL-I-OMAR PRESS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

One Pakistani member of the American Mission, Dr. Basharat Ahmad Munir Ph. D., Associate professor, has dedieated a Press to the Mission, from which "The Muslim Sunrise" and "The Ahmadiyya Gazelle" are being published.

He has also set up a Research Institute. under the mame of Fazl-i-Omar Research Institute, investing thousends of dollars, on behalef of th Mission, which, Allah willin, prove a great asset to the Mission.

He has also pledged fifteen hundred dollars for Fazl-i-Omar Foundation, out of which he has abready paid one hundred dollars.

May Allah reward him with greater capacity to serve His Cause! Amen!

(*To be continued*)

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